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AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT, INC.

1430 Massachusetts Avenue

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APRIL 1969

IN MEMORIAM

Edward Waldo Forbes, 1873-1969

The officers and the Board of Directors of the American Research Center in Egypt once more have the sad duty of announcing to the members the death of one of the founders of the Center, its first President, Edward Waldo Forbes, who died on March 11, 1969, in his ninety-sixth year.

Few men have had as long or as distinguished a career in the fine arts as had Mr. Forbes. He was, as is generally known, Director of the William Hayes Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University for thirty-five years. Under his leadership that museum became internationally known, not only for its collections but as a training school for young men and women who intended to devote their lives to research, teaching, and museum work. He and Professor Paul D. Sachs probably did more than any other two persons in the United States towards raising museum careers from an amateur to a professional basis.

Mr. Forbes was also a pioneer in the movement to arouse museums to a consciousness of the need for the preservation of the objects in their care. On his eighty-fifth birthday, in a public ceremony, the Council of the International Institute of Conservation made him its first honorary fellow, in recognition of his "eminent services...to the theory and practice of the conservation of works of art and to the



creation of means to establish and disseminate knowledge of its principles and their application." On the same occasion an Edward Waldo Forbes Prize was established to be awarded for distinguished contribution to the conservation of man's cultural heritage.

Mr. Forbes retired from the Fogg in 1944 at the age of seventy-one, but his participation in the fields of art and archaeology did not cease with his retirement. He continued to lend his support and interest to the Fogg and to Harvard University and to many other institutions and organizations concerned with archaeology and the fine arts. He was active in the Center from the time of its inception until 1962, when he retired from the presidency, not only having helped our organization through its early years but also having enlisted others in its support.

No account of his long career can give an adequate picture of Mr. Forbes. Those who are fortunate enough to have known him will remember him for his modesty, his gentle courtesy, his unfailing kindness, and his irresistible charm -- a combination of qualities all too rare in this hurried and harried age.

A VISIT FROM DR. GAMAL MOKHTAR

Dr. Gamal Mokhtar, Under Secretary of Antiquities in the Ministry of Culture of the United Arab Republic arrived in New York by way of Montreal, his plane, due in New York on February 7th having been diverted to the Canadian city because of the blizzard that made landing at Kennedy Airport impossible. In spite of the inclemency of the weather, Dr. Mokhtar's visit to the United States, made at the invitation of the American Research Center in Egypt, remained very close to schedule. His itinerary included New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Ann Arbor, Chicago, Berkeley, and Los Angeles, where he met officers and members of the Center and other persons interested in the work of the organization, and had an opportunity to visit notable collections of Egyptian art. He, in turn, most kindly lectured to students and scholars on the scholarly exchange between the United Arab Republic and the United States in their mutual concern with Egypt's great past. Dr. Mokhtar was an excellent ambassador, who made and found friends wherever he went.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, November 22, 1969

The Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, Inc., will be held this year on the West Coast, where the Department of Near Eastern Languages of the University of California at Berkeley will act as host to members and their friends.

Those members who wish to present papers at the meeting should communicate no later than October 1, 1969 with

Professor William M. Brinner, Chairman
Department of Near Eastern Languages
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

sending the title of the paper together with a brief abstract. Speakers will as usual be limited to twenty minutes; they should indicate whether or not they will use slides.

The office of the Center in Cambridge will be sending the members additional information concerning the meeting. Please address any inquiries to the American Research Center in Egypt, 1430 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

THE REOPENING OF KING TUTANKHAMUN'S COFFIN

AT THEBES

By Zaky Iskander, Sub-Director for Technical Services
Department of Antiquities

In a small unfinished tomb (No. 55) in the Valley of the Kings at Thebes, T.M. Davis discovered the remains of a body in a damaged coffin in 1907. It was thought at first that these remains belonged to Queen Tyi, the wife of Amenhotep III (1397-1360 B.C.) and the mother of Akhenaten. The examination of the sex of these remains by Dr. Elliot Smith, however, showed that they belonged to a man and attributed them to King Akhenaten (1370-1352 B.C.) on the basis of archaeological evidence only. Dr. D.E. Derry

re-examined these bones in 1931 (Annales du Service des Antiquites, 1931, p. 115) and proved that they belonged to a man aged 23 or 24 years at the time of death. Since all archaeological data denote that Akhenaten died at the age of 38 years, the attribution of these remains to Akhenaten was questioned, and some of the scholars attributed them to King Smenkhkare (1355-1352 B.C.), the elder son-in-law of Akhenaten, who was his co-regent for a short period. The Cairo Museum favoured this reasoning and labeled the bones as belonging to Smenkhkare on the basis of the archaeological data and specially the age of Smenkhkare at the time of his death.

To settle this question and find out the most probable or even the exact owner of these bones, Dr. R.G. Harrison, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Liverpool, England, with the collaboration of the Late Dr. A. Batrawi, Professor of Anatomy at Cairo University, carried out an extensive examination of these remains both anatomically and by x-ray photography. The results of this investigation were published in the Journal of Egyptian Archeology, vol. 52, 1966. They supported the hypothesis that these bones belonged to Smenkhkare, that the restored features of the body showed great similarity to those of Tutankhamun, and accordingly there might have been a strong blood relationship between the two. To prove or disprove this relationship, Professor Harrison asked the Department of Antiquities to give him permission and facilities to examine the mummy of Tutankhamun. Professor Harrison was given permission and I was asked to participate in this work so as to guarantee the safety of the mummy. Moreover, I profited by the occasion to examine the state of preservation of the mummy to decide whether it could be exhibited in its tomb or not, according to a suggestion which I had previously made.

Professor Harrison arrived in Cairo on November 30, 1968, accompanied by Dr. Leek, a dentist in London, and Mr. Paul Johnstone, Senior Producer of Archaeology and History Units, Television, BBC with his team of photographers. We left for Luxor on December 3, 1968. On December 4 the lid of the third (outermost) gilt wood coffin was lifted to permit us to examine the mummy.

It was found that the mummy had been laid on sand in a rectangular wooden box. With it was found a card on which was written in English "The mummy was opened in October 1926 and was then reburied in the coffin in November 1926 after it had been examined." The head was actually found separated from the body, but it was in fairly good condition and quite appropriate for exhibition. The limbs were also found

separated from the trunk. The embalming incision was very clear, and it seems that Dr. Derry did not attempt to remove the stuffing materials in the abdominal and thoracic cavities. Dr. Harrison in collaboration with Dr. Aly Abdallah, lecturer in the Faculty of Medicine at Cairo University, took the measurements of most of the bones and photographed them under x-ray as well as x-rays emanating from radioactive iodine. The preliminary examination showed that Tutankhamun was about 18 years old at the time of death, since the third molars did not completely erupt, and the cartilage in the joints did not completely ossify, etc. The data taken by Professor Harrison will be studied in detail to find out the points of similarity between Smenkhkare and Tutankhamun. He also took small samples from the remains of their bodies to determine the blood groups of both, which may provide additional evidence of the blood relationship between them.

Since it was impossible to reassemble the limbs of the mummy, Carter and his coworkers arranged the dismantled parts on sand in a long wooden box which was introduced into the outermost coffin, which was kept inside the quartzite sarcophagus in the tomb, while all the other treasures of Tutankhamun were transferred to the Cairo Museum.

After all the parts of the body had been examined, x-rayed and rearranged in their correct position in the sand in the box, the mummy was covered with bandages of cotton sheets and reintroduced into the coffin inside the stone sarcophagus on December 6, 1968. This reopening of the tomb was recorded on the same card on which was recorded its first opening in October 1926.

Every step of the operation was recorded by the BBC Mission in a colored film to be used on television programs in England. A copy of the film will be sent to the Department of Antiquities, Cairo.

(Editor's Note: As a result of various articles describing the condition in which Tutankhamun's mummy was found when the sarcophagus was opened on December 4, 1968, Dr. Iskander received a number of letters accusing Howard Carter of neglect or carelessness resulting in unnecessary and irreparable damage to the mummy. Dr. Iskander's defense of Mr. Carter is detailed in the following exchange of correspondence with the Sixth Grade of P.S. 91 of the Bronx.)



P.S. 91
2200 Aqueduct Ave.
Bronx, N.Y. 10453
U.S.A.

Mr. Iskander
Cairo Museum
Cairo, Egypt

Dear Mr. Iskander:

Our class has been learning about archaeological finds, including the amazing archaeological find by Howard Carter in 1922. We read an article (enclosed) in a New York newspaper, stating the fact that Howard Carter was accused of severing King Tutankhamen's head. The article states that you said it had been unavoidable for Carter to have severed the head to examine the inside of the boy king's skull. We learned how an Egyptian body was mummified and preserved. We'd like to know whether King Tutankhamen's body was preserved and mummified in the usual fashion. We'd also like to know what Carter hoped to gain from the examination of Tutankhamen's skull. Could you tell us the answers to these questions.

Yours truly,

Class 6-1

DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES
TAHRIR SQUARE, CAIRO, U.A.R.

February 2, 1969

P.S. 91
Class 6-1
2200 Aqueduct Ave.
Bronx, N.Y. 10453
U.S.A.

Dear daughters and sons:

I was very glad to receive your letter and know that you are interested in the history of Ancient Egypt and that you are following the news of the discoveries and activities in this field. As to the mummy of King Tutankhamun, I actually found the head separate and the different parts of the body - legs, arms, hands and trunk - separate, and they were arranged as far as possible in their right order on sand in a new wooden box which was enclosed in the outermost

gilt wooden coffin.

Howard Carter should not be blamed for this, since the mummy when first seen was lying in the gold coffin firmly fixed to it by some resinous material which had been poured over the body after it was placed in the coffin. Also over the head and shoulders and reaching well down to the chest was the gold mask which could not be easily removed as it was stuck to the bottom of the coffin by the resin which had dried into a mass of strong hardness. It was thus impossible to remove the 143 pieces of jewelry - collars, pectorals, bracelets, rings, etc. - which adorned the mummy, or to examine the interior of the skull and the other members of the body, without dismantling some of its parts. I should also mention that there had been with Carter many other specialists, such as Dr. Douglas E. Derry, Professor of Anatomy at Cairo University, and Mr. Alfred Lucas, Director of the Chemical Laboratory of the Department of Antiquities, who cleared and examined the mummy. If there were a means of avoiding the dismantling of some of its parts, they would not have disregarded it.

As to the mummification of the body of Tutankhamun, it appears from its examination that the method adopted was the usual method which was used in the New Kingdom, which I had the privilege of discovering, and is summarized in my book, "A Brief History of Ancient Egypt", 5th Edition, p. 81-83.

As to what Carter, Derry and other researchers hoped to gain from the examination of Tutankhamun's body, I may quote the following four aims:-

1. To determine his exact or approximate age when he died.
2. To know, if possible, the cause of his death.
3. To find the blood relationship between him and Akhenaten and Smenkhkare.
4. To find out if his skull was filled with resin or not after removal of the brain.

I hope I have answered all your questions, and I shall be pleased to provide any other needed details about the discovery of this tomb.

Sincerely yours,

(Dr. Zaky Iskander)

1968 SEASON AT FUSTAT

by George T. Scanlon, Director

(The 1968 season at Fustat under the direction of Dr. Scanlon and under the auspices of the ARCE, lasted from mid-September until mid-December 1968. The professional staff included, in addition to the Director: Dr. Wladyslaw Kubiak, Field Archaeologist, for one month; Mr. Antoni Ostrasz, Architect; Mr. Neil MacKenzie, Field Archaeologist; Mrs. Elinore Pawula, Ceramics Supervisor and Artist; Miss Helen Mitchell, Numismatist and Conservator; and Miss Penelope Freeman, Photographer. Two additional members joined the expedition midway through the season: Miss Louise Mackie, from the A.U.C., and Miss Mona Kattini, former student at the A.U.C. Herewith is a short interim report of the 1968 season.)

We began by clearing the high mounds between the two sectors of Fustat-B, excavated in 1965 and 1966. I took this opportunity to make the first shard count of an Islamic dig in Egypt. The results were as interesting chronologically as they were numerically. There can be no doubt that the mounds of Fustat are entirely unstratified and, except for the sebak level (which here lay under six to nine meters of rubbish), nothing earlier than the Ayyubid period was encountered; for example: no bone dolls, no schist, no Fatimid sgraffito or lustre wares, no Fatimid coins or glass-weights. Thus, one had a dating sequence of roughly 1200-1500 A.D. in which to assess the shards. I will limit myself here to giving the following results: a) the long duration of imitation celadons, for statistically they were as numerous as the usual Mamluk sgraffito and painted wares; b) the influence of Crusader and East Mediterranean wares (al-Mina, Athlit, Rhodes, Cyprus, Constantinople, and possibly Corinth) on Egyptian potters, who took over shapes, techniques and design patterns for their own use; c) the very early (possibly pre-1400 A.D.) and enduring appearance and effect of Chinese blue-and-white; and d) the gradual contraction and eventual disappearance of sgraffito and sgraffito-painted wares, which were almost totally replaced right before the Ottoman occupation by imitation blue-and-white, imitation Raqqa silhouette wares, and glaze-on-glaze slap-dash painted wares. I feel that this particular part of the work goes far towards implementing and correcting the early work of Lane and Marzouk, based on what appears at first to be the more stratified site of Kom al-Dikka in Alexandria.

The area beneath the high mounds cleared this season proved interesting and important. Luckily a street appeared towards the south, giving at least northern definition to what we have done in the southern sector. This street we analyzed three times stratigraphically: twice in a N-S

direction, because of the unusual contour of the gabal, and once E-W. The results were almost identical: proven use between 600 or possibly 650 and about 900 A.D. The earlier dates are valid because the numbers of Heracleian and pre-Heracleian coins (none overstruck) gave chronological significance to the highly polished Roman red-ware shards and evenly, deeply ribbed red-wares or wares with striations, the latter of which have been found in the upper layers at Tell al-Athrib. As we gauged from the 1966 material, the house immediately to the south (the one with an 8 meter stand of masonry) was Tulunid.

To the north of this street appeared portions of a Fatimid complex, which seemed to be the continuation of the glass ingot factory uncovered in 1965. The canalization here was very fine, the canals being hewn three meters into the gabal and covered along the major part of their length with thick hewn square pillar-like boulders. One pit in particular gave surprising results when excavated: in the upper layers everything was Fatimid, including glass weights of al-Mustansir and unmistakable Fatimid filters; then came a vast raft of mono-glazed, splash-glazed and glaze-painted wares with Tulunid type filters; finally, a very fine selection of 8th-9th century glass shards and filters which can be proved to be of the very earliest type. We encountered mud at a depth of 5.8 meters, and could proceed no further with our analysis; yet enough had been garnered here to connect some sort of occupation before the advent of Ibn Tulun with the evidence of the lowest strata of the street mentioned above. The pavement of a sunken room whose walls were obviously of baked brick in mud mortar (this can be seen in Pl. XXXIV-17 in Part I of the 1965 Preliminary Report, JARCE, vol. V, 1966) was removed systematically, and the fill was of the same type as that of the lower strata of the street and this time included very small and, alas, highly fragile bits of fresco. The pavement of a narthex fronting this room was taken up where possible, and the results were the same. Thus there must have been a pre-Tulunid occupancy.

The picture becomes clearer as these bits of evidence are stacked against the architectural traces. A very early house was improved upon in the Tulunid period when ash mortar was used and the sanitation system was hewn anew or earlier pits connected by deep channels. Then this entire complex was built upon (or else pulled down to base foundations) in the Fatimid period when the glass-ingot factory was established. Again, to prove this earliest occupancy, a portion of the impasse was analyzed stratigraphically, and its highest stratum was no later than 800 A.D.

In the southern sector proper, we excavated around the already exposed area towards the east, west and northeast.

We were not able to accomplish complete definition of the two complexes (one Tulunid, one Fatimid and most probably combined in the latter period) excavated in the previous seasons, but in the continuation of the Fatimid complex we uncovered a splendid fisqiyah, or courtyard basin, a rectangular one, stone plaqued and plastered, with scalloped sides and marble lined; some of the marble margining was still in situ. This entire area seems too important to lose, and the quality of the housing, the range of artifacts and type of domestic planning make it mandatory that the entire area be excavated, or at least this section be connected with that uncovered by the Department.

The second large area worked this season was in the area of the maydan uncovered and the sondage trenches excavated in 1966. We excavated to the west and northwest of the maydan, and went as far as the wall of the Mosque of Abu Su'ud. The surprising thing was that, though the mounds here were hardly more than a meter and half above the gabal, practically all of the pits were undisturbed. One, in particular, proved to be almost entirely of the 10th century, and its range of pottery when associated with that from the Tulunid levels should give us the strongest material to date for a comprehension of this heretofore devilish problem: 10th century Egyptian Islamic pottery. It is interesting to note that no lustre except some from Samarra was found.

In the large area to the NE of the maydan at least two domestic complexes, built around courtyards with Samarra bayt plans, were uncovered. Again a careful analysis of pits, canals and those parts of filling beneath floorings proved a Tulunid and possibly earlier occupancy to complement the Fatimid traces. (In one instance by uncovering a late flooring, we found pottery of a most interesting genre: painted in slip design, mostly Coptic, and then covered with a thin transparent glaze. Such a pottery is clearly the linkage we have been seeking between Coptic slip-painted wares and the type of clear glazed and painted under glaze wares we now know.) Further another long N-S street was elucidated (one bending NE out of the maydan), and when it was analyzed stratigraphically it proved to be pre-Tulunid also in its lower strata, from one of which came an Heracleian coin. Once again I feel that we should strive to preserve at least what remains of the area I trenched. Once uncovered and recorded and associated with the results of the Department's trenching to the east, the entire portion marked for housing could be surrendered without undue scientific harm.

UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA EXPEDITION AT TELL ED-DAB'A

by Manfred Bietak, Director

(Editor's Note: Dr. Bietak, Director of the Austrian archaeological expedition at Tell ed-Dab'a, located in the Eastern Delta, began excavating this site in July 1966 and has now completed three "campaigns", each campaign consisting of two expeditions, one in the spring and one in the fall of each year.)

During the first two campaigns Dr. Bietak early discovered that Tell ed-Dab'a offered an excellent opportunity to study the various occupational levels during the growth of the "sand-gezireh" from the Middle Kingdom (2000-1650 B.C.) to the Greco-Roman period. Particularly interesting, even sensational, was the possibility that a study of the occupational layers of the Hyksos Period (1650-1542 B.C.) might provide additional information on a period of Egyptian history of which little is known. Remnants of a settlement of the Middle Kingdom, preceding the Hyksos Period, had clearly been destroyed by fire and the occupational layer immediately above these remnants, dating from the Hyksos Period, reflected an Asiatic culture of the Middle Bronze Age of Syria and Palestine: bronze battle-axes found in the tombs, the dead arranged contractedly instead of extended as was customary in Egypt, the cremation of children, burials under the floors of houses, the tombs containing pairs of horse skeletons, apparently chariot teams. The results of the first two campaigns at Tell ed-Dab'a gave credence to the assumption by certain Egyptian archaeologists that Avaris, the capital of the Hyksos, might have been located near the Tell, and that the inhabitants were actually responsible for the Hyksos domination of the country.

During the first half of the third campaign a clear stratigraphy for the Tell was established: Stratum A, Greek-Ptolemaic settlement; Stratum B, massive wall-structures of Ramesside or Late Period; Stratum C, foundation of a pillared hall of the New Kingdom (18th or 19th Dynasty); Stratum D, settlement of mud brick houses and narrow streets (early 18th Dynasty, about 1600-1542 B.C.), Middle Bronze Age Culture; Stratum E, cemeteries, temples and settlement, Hyksos (1650-1600 B.C.); Stratum F, tombs and settlement, early Hyksos (about 1650 B.C.); Stratum G, late Middle Kingdom settlement (13th Dynasty); Stratum H, hurdle walls, Middle Kingdom (12th Dynasty?). Additional important tombs were excavated during the first half of the third campaign, as was a second large mortuary temple at least twenty meters long, of sandy mud-brick, whose architecture closely resembled that of Asiatic Middle Bronze Age temples. Although it was still uncertain whether Tell ed-Dab'a could be identified with the Hyksos capital of Avaris, the Tell has

now proved to be the largest known site of the Syro-Palestinian Middle Bronze Age culture in Egypt.

(Dr. Bietak's report of his latest expedition, the second half of his third campaign at Tell ed-Dab'a, which lasted from October 18 until December 18, 1968, follows.)

In the previous seasons some walls of the mortuary temple I (early Hyksos time, ca. 1650-1600 B.C.) had to be removed to dig the tombs of stratum F below (ca. 1675-1650 B.C.). To give visitors an idea about the original structure, the Austrian mission restored the temple. First the square sections belonging to this temple were refilled to the level of Stratum E. After this, deep foundation pits were sunk for the walls to be restored, reaching the virginal soil. These pits were filled with hard pounded earth to prevent a later shrinking of the foundations. For the restoration work itself bricks were prepared in the original "Hyksos" size, measuring 39x18x10 cm. They were made with a strong mixture of sand, so they would look like the old bricks, and after they became dry, two efficient local builders dressed up the missing walls on the newly prepared foundations. The crowns of the original walls were protected with a layer of cement. The new walls will be covered later, when they are completely dry and the shrinking process has stopped.

During the excavations most of the section walls between the adjoining square excavation areas were removed, after drawing had been completed, in order to reveal some tombs enclosed in the section walls. Most of the tombs belong to Stratum E and to the cemetery of the temple complex. Most of them were chamber-tombs, built of mud bricks and covered originally with a vault. Most of the vaults had collapsed under the pressure of the earth or were destroyed by tomb robbers soon after the funeral. On one side of the chamber was left an opening which was closed by irregular layers of bricks. All the tomb chambers were placed inside a pit in such a way that some space in the pit was left in front of the chamber entrance. Two tombs had no chamber, but the upper part of the body and the skull were protected by a small and irregular vault. The bodies were mainly in contracted position. Only some few were in a rather extended position, but even in the latter cases the legs were not closed and the arms were sometimes not attached to the body. Nothing points towards a mummy-like funeral with bandaging. Remarkable on the other hand are sand-fillings found inside the skulls, while the tomb filling itself consisted of muddy earth and claybrick debris.

Many tombs were equipped with piriform juglets with a red slip or of black polished incised Tell el-Yahudiye Ware. Scarabs were rare this season. One tomb, belonging to

Stratum F had a steatite scarab with the king's name Sebekhotpe. This does not mean necessarily that this tomb belong to the 13th dynasty, since such scarabs were kept as heirlooms throughout the period of the Hyksos until the beginning of the 18th dynasty. In one tomb we found a togglepin of bronze at the shoulder of the deceased. Thus we may conclude that the dead were buried in their clothes. In another tomb was found an earring at the parietal-bone of a skull belonging to a 16 year old boy. This is reminiscent of a common practice in Egypt today, when parents give their boy an earring to protect him from evil, especially when his older brothers have died.

The tombs were used for single and multiple burials. One tomb contained the remains of five persons. When a new burial was put into the tomb, the bones of the older ones were pushed together along the side or main walls of the tomb to make place for the new one.

The human remains were studied by Dr. Jungwirth on the site itself because the bad preservation and the humidity of the earth makes chemical treatment of the bones very difficult.

By careful stratigraphic studies of the section walls the mission was able to trace the chronological relations of Temple I (Stratum E) to the big building partially excavated last season. The latter is most probably a second temple (II). Temple II is slightly older than Temple I and may have been built already at the time of Stratum F. It was in use till Stratum E (contemporary to Temple I) and was replaced by a minor mud brick building, to give more space for the growing cemetery belonging to it. The excavation of Temple II will be completed during the next season, in the spring of 1969.

The only new area excavated this season was northeast of Temple I. This square lies at the bottom of the big trench caused by sebak diggers by removing the mud bricks of a 10 meter strong wall of Stratum B (Ramesside - Late Period), surrounding the highest part of the Tell. Remains of the southeast corner of this wall were traced as upmost layer. Below this were found, as expected, remains of mud brick houses of Stratum D (late Hyksos time, ca. 1600-1550 B.C.). The next layer below, contemporary to Temples I and II, consisted of a sand brick house. It is clear now that both temples were placed inside a settlement surrounded by living quarters. Each temple complex occupied the place of a group of houses.

Below this layer were structures of Strata F and G. To F belonged three tombs, of which only one was excavated this season. It belonged to an adult man lying in contracted

position inside a simple pit. The only offering consisted of a big juglet with ovoid body, long slim neck and a tripartite handle. The slip is redish with a slight metallic burnishing.

As already stated, all the remains of strata D to G belong to the Middle Bronze Age II Culture of Syria-Palestine (terminology K.M. Kenyon) and have to be regarded as direct evidence of Asiatic infiltration during the 13th dynasty and of the occupation of the Delta by the Hyksos and their followers.

PROFESSOR EMERY AT SAQQARA, 1969

Professor Walter B. Emery, of University College, London, is scheduled to complete another season at Saqqara in early March 1969, again under the sponsorship of the Egypt Exploration Society. The season has proved most rewarding, yielding an impressive collection of bronzes, statuettes and stelae.

Two seasons ago, when excavations were moved from the ibis galleries to the present site, approximately a quarter of a mile to the west, first probings revealed a vast enclosure in the midst of Third Dynasty tombs which had been used by later civilizations as a shrine where pilgrims left statuettes, food, stelae, and papyri bearing demotic, hieratic, Greek, Coptic and Aramaic writing. The construction of this shrine, or temple, appears to have been started by the Ptolemies and to have been enlarged year after year. The god to which the shrine was dedicated was associated with the ibis and the baboon. Imhotep, architect of the Zoser Step Pyramid, was already well known when he died during the Third Dynasty, but he was not deified until 2000 years later. Both the ibis and the baboon were associated with his cult.

As the ibis was long associated with Thot, the moon god and patron of the sciences, who was worshipped from as early as the First Dynasty, and as the ibis galleries were obviously a product of a much later period, there was no doubt that the galleries were dedicated to some later god with the same associations as Thot, possibly Imhotep. It is also the theory of Prof. Emery's team that a fertile valley in the vicinity, which was once the lake of Abu Sir, was used by the Egyptians to breed sacred ibises, later to be mummified.

Last season Dr. Emery discovered the remains of the temple of Nectanebo, the last Pharaoh of Egyptian blood, which had been erected in the Fifth Century B.C. on top of the earlier enclosure, which had been filled in by previous civilizations.

In November, within the first two weeks after Prof. Emery began this season's work on the enclosure, he discovered a cache of some thirty bronzes, most of which had been crammed into two small upright wooden chests. Many of these bronzes, most of which bore the name of the worshipper who brought them to the shrine, had been wrapped in linen and were consequently in an excellent state of preservation. Of these bronzes possibly the most interesting is a seated Isis holding the infant Horus in her lap. This statuette is about ten inches high and lavishly ornamented in gold leaf. The baby, which fits into a slot in the lap of the seated goddess, is detachable, as is the tiny silver cap which fits snugly on the baby's head. A second bronze, also approximately ten inches high, is a perfectly executed image of Osiris, standing erect in his traditional pose, shrouded in his tight-fitting garment, his arms crossed over his breast, holding a sceptre and flail and wearing the White Crown flanked by two large plumes. The exquisite craftsmanship of the sculptor is revealed in the fine detail of the border pattern of the robe, the miniature necklace and the plumes of the crown, all inlaid in silver.

Shortly after the beginning of this season the expedition discovered the entrance to the baboon galleries, one above the other, leading south from the enclosure. The walls of the galleries were lined with niches in which had been set wooden boxes, each of which had contained a mummified baboon. Most of the boxes and their contents had been smashed, deliberately destroyed by early Christians, but two boxes were found intact. The mummified baboons had been placed in the boxes which had then been filled with schist, virtually encasing the baboon in a block of solid concrete. In at least two places the wall of the baboon galleries had been pierced to reveal that they were adjacent to, and probably connected with, the ibis galleries, whose entrance is at least a quarter of a mile to the southwest.

Just inside the entrance to the baboon galleries were found some stelae inscribed in Carian, the largely undeciphered language resembling archaic Greek, used in Asia Minor during the 26th Dynasty. Of particular importance to philologists are two stelae inscribed both in hieroglyphic and in Carian, providing a possible key to the Carian language, much as the Rosetta Stone led to the deciphering of hieroglyphics.

Nearly a month ago Prof. Emery's expedition discovered a large Third Dynasty mastaba south of the enclosure in which he had been digging and directly above the extension of the baboon galleries. The mastaba, built of sun-dried brick, once stood thirty feet high but has been weathered to about one third its original height. Of particular significance was the discovery in one of the chambers of the mastaba of a pottery jar bearing the seal of Zoser, leaving little doubt that the mastaba was built during the reign of that Pharaoh, about 2700 B.C., and must have been the tomb of a citizen of considerable importance. As had been anticipated, the clearing of the two main central chambers of the mastaba revealed two burial shafts used for the deceased and his wife. A theory that these burial shafts connected with the baboon galleries, which of course had been constructed 2000 years later, turned out to be true. A week before the close of the season the shafts had not been entirely cleared, since the fill had been tightly packed and to unblock the perpendicular shafts from above or from below was a dangerous operation.

At the entrance to the mastaba was found a pile of what were apparently plaster casts of limbs of statues, whose significance remains a mystery. Nearby were several large sealed jars presumably containing libations or nourishment for the deceased. Curious as to the contents, the staff removed one of the seals and found that the jar had been filled only with sand. Professor Emery does not believe the large mastaba could have been the tomb of Imhotep since there was nothing to prove that it had later become a shrine.

It has been a fruitful season, but the final resting place of Imhotep continues to be elusive.

EXCAVATIONS AT PREHISTORIC SITE IN THE FAYUM

By Fred Wendorf, Director

The Southern Methodist University Expedition has just completed two months of excavation at eight prehistoric sites in the Fayum depression south of Cairo. Three of the sites were of Late Paleolithic age and the remainder dated from Neolithic to Old Kingdom. All of the sites were buried with the lacustrine silts of at least two ancient lakes that formed in the depression.

The Late Paleolithic sites, which may date around 8,000 B.C., contain a lithic industry of backed blades, retouched

blades, notched tools, grinding stones, and simple bone points. The occupation levels occur in silts of the oldest lake in the depression. Sites of Neolithic Age (Catan-Thompson "Fayum A") occur buried within a later lake which reached its highest elevation in early Old Kingdom times. It is now clearly established that the so-called "Pleistocene Lake" of Catan-Thompson is in reality of Old Kingdom age and that the temple of Qasr es-Sagha stood on the shore of this tremendous lake at its maximum extent.

THE CENTER'S GUEST BOOK

Although it might not be fair to relate the influx of visitors to Cairo during December, January and February to another sunny winter in Egypt, the last few months have brought many visitors to the Center.

During December Miss Barbara Carlson of the Hartford Courant called at the office to be briefed on archaeological activities in Egypt, as did Bob Allison of CBS. Eric Pace of the New York Times visited the Fustat site and produced a feature article on this year's excavations. Dr. William McHugh of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, whom the Center had assisted in advance preparations, was in Egypt to conduct a preliminary paleontological survey in the Dakhla and Kharga Oases. Other callers at the Center during December included: Mr. Charles Oliver of the University of Chicago, who is currently conducting a course for beginners in hieroglyphics at the American University; Dr. Yahya El Khachab, of the School of Oriental Studies at Cairo University; Mr. Leslie Greener, formerly at Chicago House, Luxor, and currently with Mr. Ray Smith's Akhenaton Project; and Mr. and Mrs. Kent Weeks, forerunners of the Hierakonpolis Expedition.

In January Dr. James Harris from Michigan arrived and paid a quick visit to Kom Ombo in preparation for his return in March to continue his cephalometric survey among Nubian school children. Dr. Dan Crecelius, Associate Professor at California State College in Los Angeles, arrived to begin his six months as an ARCE Fellow. Dr. and Mrs. John Wilson spent a week in Cairo on their way to Chicago House in Luxor, where they will remain for three months. Mr. Michael J. Barnwell, formerly at Chicago House, called at the Center with Mrs. Barnwell, en route to Aswan, where he will collaborate with Dr. Arnold of the German Institute on some of the Kalabsha reliefs. The Center assisted in arrangements to

enable Dr. Paul Lapp of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, accompanied by Dr. Frederick Wisse of the Claremont Graduate School in California, to inspect the area of Hamra Dom Abu Heza near Naz Hammadi, as a possible site for archaeological excavations.

Also during January Dr. Francisco Presedo, Director of the Museum at the University of Madrid, and Dr. Martin Almgren, Director of the Spanish Archaeological Mission in Egypt, called at the Center for any suggestions we might give them, from our past experience with the Dendur Temple, as they prepared to transport the Temple of Debod, the gift of the U.A.R. to Spain. Mr. Jean Jacquet stopped in the office after having completed a season at Killia; he is now resuming work at the Temple of Khonsu in Luxor. Dr. Herman ta Velde, the Dutch Egyptologist, called at the Center during his annual trip to Cairo. Dr. Walter Fairervis from the New York Museum of Natural History, Director of the ARCE Hierakonpolis Expedition, arrived in Cairo on January 6, followed during the next few days by the rest of his staff, this year including Dr. Klaus Baer of the Oriental Institute, the University of Chicago, a member of the governing board of the Center. Mr. Fouad Moussallem, Permanent Secretary of the Institut d'Egypte, called to discuss details for lectures to be given at the Institut by Dr. John Wilson and by Dr. von Grunebaum. Dr. Ahmed Fakhry stopped in to say goodbye before leaving for Amman, where he will remain at the University until June. Other January visitors to the Center included Dr. Jean Leclant of the Sorbonne Centre de Recherches Egyptiennes, long a member of the ARCE, and his assistant Miss Catherine Berger, who are working at Saqqara; Mr. Alfred Friendly, Associate Editor of the Washington Post; Dr. Fred Wendorf, Director of the Southern Methodist University prehistoric expedition, located this season northeast of Lake Qarun in the area of Fayyum; and Dr. Leila Hussein of the National Research Center in Cairo.

The first in our February list of visitors was Mr. Rodney Sarle, Library of Congress representative resident in Kabul, who visits Cairo each month to supervise the continuing Arabic publication acquisition program. Dr. Fernando Debono, Italian Egyptologist, came to inquire about the opportunities to join the faculty of American University for a year. Dr. Mohsin Bakir, Egyptologist formerly with Cairo University, called to discuss the possibility of starting an international center for Egyptological research in Egypt. During the second week in February Dr. Willaim Kelly Simpson of Yale and Mr. David O'Connor of Pennsylvania, Co-Directors of the Yale-Pennsylvania Expedition at Abydos, arrived with other members of their staff, to begin their third season. Mr. Paul B. Johnson, Quaker

Middle East Representative, called at the Center to discuss appropriate projects in the area which the Friends might undertake. Dr. Perry Rathbone, Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, was in Cairo for several days to discuss final arrangements for the Boston Museum's collaboration in the Cairo Millenary and the Cairo Museum's loan of objects for the Boston and Metropolitan Centenaries in 1970. Mr. Herschel Price, a construction engineer who has for years had interests in the Near East, came to inquire about the ARCE program. Dr. Magdi Wahba, Under Secretary in the Ministry of Culture and responsible for planning the ceremonies commemorating the millenary of the founding of Cairo, called to discuss with us plans for the participation of American scholars in the colloquium. Dr. Aziz Atiya, member of the ARCE Board from the University of Utah, and Mrs. Atiya, called at the Center during their two months' stay in Maadi. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lingwood of Chicago, having spent a few days at Luxor, brought us word from the Hierakonpolis expedition, which they had visited briefly a few days before. Our last visitor of the month was Mr. Abdel Fatah Fayed, Department of Antiquities Inspector at Hierakonpolis, who had come to Cairo to be with his family over the Bairam holidays, and who gave us a complete run-down on the progress of the expedition.

NOTES ON ACTIVITIES IN EGYPT

Department of Antiquities

Mr. Mahmoud Abdel Razzak, Inspector at Luxor, is continuing to clear the area in front of the Temple of Karnak on both sides of the Avenue of the Sphinxes and has found extensive remains of what was probably a Roman garrison. Some two-story Roman houses have been uncovered, as have several Roman baths. Mr. Abdel Razzak has also found evidence of a conflagration which must have destroyed a large section of the Roman garrison.

When Mr. Abdel Razzak first started to work on the site, the old city of Luxor was seventeen meters high. The excavations of the Islamic period produced little of interest. He is now down to the sixth layer, which proves to be Roman, but he is still some four meters above the pavement of the Avenue of the Sphinxes. While working on the Avenue, Mr. Abdel Razzak uncovered large cylindrical constructions of baked brick between each two sphinxes. It is thought that each of these enclosures contained a tree, irrigated by water pipes, portions of which have been discovered, and that

thus the entire two-mile length of the avenue with its 1050 sphinxes was at one time lined with shade trees.

Other Expeditions

With nine days left, the Hierakonpolis Expedition, under the direction of Dr. Walter Fairservis and with ARCE sponsorship, had cleared 24 quadrants, each 10 meters square. The excavations now comprise an area extending southwest from the walled city entrance excavated two years ago to what appears to be the extension of Quibell's palace wall.

Excavations have revealed a number of early dynastic dwellings and storehouses of mud brick. A drainage ditch in the vicinity has lowered the water level by several feet, reducing considerably the problem which the expedition faced during its first season. The few objects which have been unearthed include jars, flint knives and bits of heavily corroded copper.

Most interesting is a thick, mud brick wall, niched in the style later used at Saqqara in the Third Dynasty enclosure walls of the Zoser and Sekhemkhet Pyramids, which may have been the facade of a palace. At the foot of these walls, near what appears to be the entrance, are shallow holes whose function is unknown; possibly they contained offerings at the time the building was dedicated. The sealed grave of a dog was discovered just inside the walls.

A preliminary survey of the wadi coming down through the foothills bordering the desert to the west of the cultivated area, well within the limits of the concession, reveals prehistoric remains to support the theory that at one time the Nile backed up across what is now desert to form a large lake-like body of water.

The inscriptions of the Old Kingdom tombs in the nearer foothills have been copied but work on the New Kingdom tombs in the further foothills must await another season.

The work of Chicago House, now concentrating on the Temple of Khonsu, is proceeding on schedule and should close for the season on April 15.

Dr. James Harris, of the University of Michigan, arrived in Egypt on February 28 to continue his cephalometric study of Nubian school children in a joint University of Michigan-Alexandria University project under ARCE sponsorship. Dr. Harris and three colleagues were joined in Cairo

by Drs. Atta and Galil of Alexandria University before proceeding to KomOmbo.

The Pyramid X-ray Project, a University of California (Laurence Radiation Laboratory) - Ein Shems University joint project to determine whether or not unrevealed chambers exist in the Chephren Pyramid by registering the intensity of cosmic rays on spark chambers located inside the funeral chamber, has produced nothing definitive to date. Dr. Lauren Yazolino, University of California representative of the project during 1968, returned to Berkeley in December. The analysis has proved inadequate and must be carried out at a more sophisticated level. Continued simulation and analysis are being carried on at Ein Shems and at California.

The work of the Centre Franco-Egyptien d'Etude des Temples de Karnak continued to concentrate on the dismantling of the Ninth Pylon, where additional blocks from the original temple of Akhenaton are being discovered. The laying of electric wires under the Great Court of the Great Temple of Ammon, essential to the implementation of a program of sound and light within the Karnak complex, revealed extensive salt erosion. Consequently the floor of the Great Court is being removed and relaid by the joint expedition.

Mr. Jean Jacquet of the French Institute is mid-way through his second season working within the enclosure of the Temple of Montu. Mr. Jacquet has almost completed the excavation of six quadrants. He has cleared a platform of what was probably a later extension of the temple built in the 18th Dynasty by Amenophis III. He has also excavated a section of the wide mud brick foundations of what may have been the girdling wall of the original temple. Mr. Jacquet has unearthed large circular enclosures of baked brick which, he agrees with Mr. Abdel Razzak, were probably large planters for shade trees, similar to those discovered on the Avenue of the Sphinxes.

The German Archeological Institute in Cairo, under the direction of Dr. Werner Kaiser, has been collaborating with the Swiss Institute, under Dr. Ricke, in excavating the site of the temple of Khnum on Elephantine Island in Luxor.

Prof. Jean Philippe Lauer is completing another four months' season at Saqqara with the Egyptian Department of Antiquities, during which he continued his partial reconstruction of the Zoser Jubilee Court of the Heb-Sed Temple, his search for the entrance to the tunnel leading to the southern tomb of the Unfinished Pyramid of Sekhemkhet, and

reinforcing the interior of the Pyramid of Pepi I.

Having completed the restoration of two chapels along the western enclosure of Zoser's jubilee court, Prof. Lauer is now restoring the lower part of the facade of the intervening chapels along the southwest enclosure wall, sufficient to give the visitor more of an idea of how the entire facade must have looked. Prof. Lauer is also completing the restoration of two of the twelve chapels along the northeast enclosure wall of the jubilee court.

Having discovered the southern tomb of the Sekhemkhet Pyramid two years ago, Prof. Lauer was able to clear the tunnel, originally used as the access, from the tomb 42 meters due east, at which point it became blocked with rock debris whose removal proved too dangerous to undertake. Cross cuts along the western enclosure wall at right angles to the tunnel and due east of the tomb failed to reveal the entrance to the tunnel. Prof. Lauer, concluding that the tunnel to the tomb probably connects at right angles with a gallery paralleling the west wall of the enclosure, has started trenching along the south enclosure wall, working east, hoping to find the entrance to the galleries which presumably connect with the tunnel leading to the southern tomb.

Profs. Leclant and Lauer continue work on the Pyramid of Pepi I, clearing a double row of recesses along the eastern base, during which they found fragments of some thirteen statues of kneeling prisoners, and reinforcing the interior of the pyramid. Next year the passage way leading to the funeral chamber will be cleared, thereby exposing many more wall inscriptions which were not recorded by Maspero.

A Polish delegation visited Cairo for fifteen days in January, during which they inspected Islamic monuments prior to submitting a recommendation to the Department of Antiquities for their restoration. The delegation also studied the possibility of converting parts of the Citadel into cultural centers.

Cultural Programs

Ceremonies commemorating 1969 as the 1,000th anniversary of the founding of Cairo were officially inaugurated by the Minister of Culture, Dr. Sarwat Okasha, in a statement released to the press on January 1, in which the Minister described Cairo as "a rare example of a place which has managed to originate and embrace the most valuable and the most precious of the elements which constitute human heritage."

The first two months of the millenary year have been extremely active and the cultural events have been well attended. January was devoted to Soviet cultural activities, with productions by the Bolshoi ballet during the first two weeks and the Moisev folkloric dance troupe during the last two weeks. An exhibit of contemporary Russian art and sculpture was shown at the Galerie de Beaux Arts at Bab el Luq throughout the month. French Cultural activities took precedence during February, with performances by the Opera de Paris ballet troupe and the presentation of Racine's Britannicus and Girandoux's Electre by the Comedie Francaise. An exhibit of contemporary French artists, including the best known, drew large crowds. March will be devoted to cultural programs originating in East Germany and Poland.

Preparations are now being made for the colloquium, to take place between March 27 and April 7, to review the history of Cairo and its scientific, literary, and intellectual contribution to Islam and humanity. ARCE Board members including G.E. von Grunebaum, Morroe Berger, William M. Brinner and George T. Scanlon, will be among the scholars from all over the world invited to participate in the seminars. The exhibition of Islamic art, to which museums in other countries including the United States will lend objects, will take place at the same time as the seminar. Mr. Duncan Smith has been loaned by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts to assist in arranging the exhibit, which will be held in the exhibition halls of the Semiramis Hotel.

On the evening of February 3 Dr. John Wilson, ARCE Board member from the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, lectured at the Institut d'Egypte on "Some New Trends in Archeology". Dr. Wilson presented a historical survey of archeology in Egypt, describing its development in the following stages: the age of plunderers, 1800-1850; the age of the amateur archeologists, 1850-1890; the age of the professionals, 1890-1950; and the present age of highly refined techniques.

During February it was announced that Dr. Thomas A. Bartlett, President of the American University at Cairo since 1963, would be leaving in June to become President of Colgate College in Hamilton, New York. Mr. Christopher Thoron, presently serving as Secretary to the Board of Trustees, will assume the responsibilities of President on an ad interim basis with the additional title of "Acting for the President".

Also in the News

The Institut d'Egypte has elected five new members. They are: Prof. Jacques Berque of the College de France; Prof. Regis Blachere of the Sorbonne; Prof. G.E. von Grunebaum of the Near East Center, University of California, Los Angeles; Prof Bernard Lewis of the University of London; Dr. John Wilson of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago. Needless to say, the Institut d'Egypte, originally founded by Napoleon Bonaparte, has behind it a long and venerable tradition. Membership in the Institut is reserved for distinguished scholars who have made their mark in the field of Islamic or Egyptological studies.

Considerable advance publicity has been given locally to a British expedition under the leadership of Captain Sir Ranulph Twiselton Wykeham Ifinnes Bart, which will explore the White Nile in two small hovercraft. The original plan was to fly the length of the Nile, starting at Alexandria, but the necessary permission could not be obtained to hover over Egypt. The expedition with their hovercraft disembarked in Alexandria in the latter part of February and transited Cairo, their hovercraft on trailers pulled by two landrovers, en route to El Shal, south of Aswan, where they will proceed by steamer to Wadi Halfa before taking to the air.

Also receiving publicity is the alleged intention of Thor Heyerdahl of "Kon Tiki" fame to construct a raft from the trunks of palm trees and papyrus and to drift with the current from Africa to South America, to prove that Aztec and Maya civilizations, with their pyramids and their similar irrigation systems, actually had their origins in Egypt. One report indicates that the papyrus, which was to have been brought into Egypt for the construction of the raft, has been held up in customs, where it awaits the payment of a prohibitively high import duty.

THE FIRE IN THE CAMBRIDGE OFFICES

At eight o'clock on the morning of February 6th, the Secretary of the Center appeared at the office to find that one room had been completely gutted by fire and that the remainder of the suite was in a state of incredible confusion and filth, with windows broken and boarded up and furniture and equipment piled pell-mell and badly damaged by smoke and water. Repairs were delayed by the successive blizzards that paralyzed New England in February and March,

but order is gradually emerging out of chaos, and although valuable records have been lost or badly damaged, the office has remained open and is functioning as usual. Some idea of the problem that has confronted the Secretary and Treasurer of the Center may be gained from the photograph accompanying this notice.

THE ARABIC SHORT STORY

Mahmoud Manzalaoui, editor. The Short Story. Cairo, American Research Center in Egypt (1968); 407 pp., incl. bibliography (Arabic Writing Today, v. I).

The first volume of the Center's series of translations of modern Arabic literature, which was announced in Newsletter 67 (October, 1968) as being in press, has now appeared in Cairo and will shortly be available for distribution in the United States. This volume is an anthology representing the work of thirty authors whose stories have not previously been available in translation but who are well known to readers in the Middle East.

As members of the Center know, the President of our organization, Dr. von Grunebaum, has been the eminence grise behind this series. The short stories in the present volume have, however, been chosen by a committee of Egyptian scholars, men of distinction in the fields of Arabic and comparative literature, and the translations have been made by highly qualified bilingual translators, whose work has been checked by revisers whose native language is English. The name of both translator and reviser is appended to each story.

Each story is also prefaced by a brief biography of the author. These biographical sketches indicate that the writers represented are close to the people about whom they write and that their stories may be judged not only as skillful exercises in a literary form but as social documents of great value. Moreover, as these stories have for the most part originally appeared in the popular press, they may be regarded as typical of what the reading public in Arabic speaking lands desires and enjoys.

Some of the stories included in the anthology show traces of world tendencies; most of them are of the soil that produced them. As H.E. Dr. Sarwat Okasha, Minister of Culture of the United Arab Republic says, in his admirable Foreword to the volume, "Modern Arabic literature...seeking modes of expression which would, as it were, encapsulate

